

make. I strongly support H. Res. 861, designating the month of November, which includes the Veterans Day holiday, as an appropriate time to observe National Military Family Month. As a Member of the House Committee on Armed Services, I find this resolution to be of great significance, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Military families in my home State of Georgia have suffered the loss of 158 soldiers, 6 of whom were constituents in my district, as a result of military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Nationwide, military families have endured the loss of thousands of soldiers. We owe them our gratitude and recognition for their service. The men and women who serve in the Armed Forces are responsible for carrying out the invaluable task of keeping our country safe, and as they fulfill their duties at home and abroad, they rely, not only on the political support of fellow citizens, but also on the emotional support of their families. As we move forward with important military objectives in Iraq and Afghanistan, we should not forget this unseen, but crucial, support. Indeed, the dedication of military families represents what is finest about our country. And, with increasing military challenges, this resolution, honoring their commitment, will reaffirm the solidarity and unity that provides our country with strength and resolve as we pass through this time of trial.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. KISSELL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 861, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. KISSELL. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING STUDENTS ABOUT VETERANS

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 897) recognizing the importance of teaching elementary and secondary school students about the sacrifices that veterans have made throughout the history of the Nation.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 897

Whereas veterans have made innumerable sacrifices for the freedom and welfare of the United States and people worldwide;

Whereas in 2008 there were over 23,000,000 veterans in the United States, but many elementary and secondary school students are not aware of the efforts veterans have made to protect our freedoms;

Whereas many elementary and secondary schools and teachers have held drives in re-

cent years to collect items to send to veterans, members of the Armed Forces, and families of such members;

Whereas fewer than half of the Nation's high school seniors have a basic knowledge of American history and the contributions veterans have made to the Nation's safety and security;

Whereas it is important for elementary and secondary school students to learn about the history of the Nation and the wars and missions veterans have participated in and sacrificed for; and

Whereas elementary and secondary schools across the Nation host Veterans Day programs to honor and educate students about the sacrifices veterans have made: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the importance of teaching elementary and secondary school students, on Veterans Day and throughout the school year, about the sacrifices that veterans have made throughout the history of the Nation; and

(2) encourages elementary and secondary schools to engage students in learning about, and honoring, veterans and the sacrifices they have made.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 897.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 897, and I thank my friend and colleague from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) for offering this legislation. This resolution recognizes the importance of teaching elementary and secondary school students about the sacrifices veterans have made throughout our Nation's history.

Our country is built on the backbone of men and women who served in our Nation's military forces. Veterans from all across the Nation sacrifice their time, energy, and lives for freedoms that we sometimes take for granted. In 2008, there were over 23 million veterans in the United States, but much of our Nation's youth do not fully comprehend the commitment our soldiers undergo on a daily basis. Many times, veterans leave combat and reintegrate into society with extreme challenges: post-traumatic stress disorder, alcoholism, drug abuse, and homelessness are just some of the afflictions our dear veterans face. However, there are a number of dedicated organizations that cater and focus direct attention to the needs of our veterans.

Last month, we commemorated our veterans on November 11 with Veterans Day. We remembered heroes for their fearlessness, their loyalty, and their

dedication. Their selfless sacrifices continue to inspire us today as we work to advance peace and extend freedom around the world.

We also remember and honor those who laid down their lives in freedom's defense. These brave men and women made the ultimate sacrifice for our benefit, and our country is forever indebted to our veterans for their courage and exemplary service.

But today, less than half of the Nation's high school seniors possess the basic knowledge of the contribution veterans have made to our Nation's safety and security, and because of this, I recognize the importance of teaching the sacrifices veterans have made for our Nation in the classroom.

Madam Speaker, I again want to support this resolution and to thank Representative GUTHRIE for bringing this resolution forward. I encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 897 recognizing the importance of teaching elementary and secondary school students about the sacrifices that veterans have made throughout the history of the Nation. Over the recent Veterans Day holiday, I was proud to attend many ceremonies and parades held across my district to honor our veterans. Through these events, and many others, students learn the important role past generations played in our Nation's history. We watch with admiration the accomplishments of our servicemen and -women, both past and present. And as we come upon another holiday season, we are thankful for their perseverance and dedication, and are again reminded how important our military, their families, and veterans are to our Nation's history and future.

I want to share one experience just a few weeks ago. We finished voting early, and I went for a walk around the Capitol on a beautiful fall day. As I was walking down the Mall, I walked past the World War II Memorial. I stood there, and there were older people looking at the Pacific side and the Atlantic side, and I was trying to think in my mind what they were thinking. Were they remembering a friend or colleague that didn't come back? A lot of them were sharing that experience with grandchildren or great-grandchildren. You could just see at the memorial the pride and the tears in our veterans.

As I continued to walk, I went down to the Korean war memorial, and that is one that my family has personal experience with. My uncle, 12 years before I was born, in 1952 was killed. And so my grandfather and grandmother always talked about the sacrifice of veterans, particularly losing their oldest son in the Korean war.

Then further along the Mall there is the memorial to Abraham Lincoln with